CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	USSR Control over	the Satellite Countries DATE DISTR	1954
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Control of the USSR over its satellites is effected in much the same way as the Central Committee of the CPSU exercises control over all aspects of life in the USSR. Briefly, this is done in the following manner.

- a. The CPSU controls, through links established during training or other prior relationships, members of the central committees of the Communist parties in the satellite states. Top Party leaders in the various satellites who have been trained in Moscow are, for all practical purposes, Soviet men or women, and are completely subservient to Moscow.
- b. Some control over official activities in the satellite countries is exercised through the local embassies of the USSR. The Soviet ambassadors are in some cases considered direct representatives of the Central Committee of the CPSU and deliver instructions and other guidance to local Communist leaders. This channel is known to be used for the transmittal of bulky printed materials. Personnel of the Soviet representations abroad, in turn, study carefully the local scene in the satellite country to which they are assigned and submit reports to Moscow.
- c. Soviet military advisors are posted to the general staffs of all satellite countries, and they are therefore knowledgeable of the nations: war plans and report all details to Moscow.
- d. MVD representatives are assigned by Moscow to the satellite countries, work closely with the local security and intelligence services, and are thus aware of all current trends and popular attitudes within the country. The MVD personnel submit reports on their activities to the MVD headquarters in Moscow. MVD representatives advise the local services in both positive intelligence and counterintelligence matters. Joint activities are undertaken against third countries, especially the US. The target of all such activities is ultimately the US, and the USSR enlists the collaboration of Soviet bloc embassies or legations in support of this effort. In some instances, the latter channel is

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more effective as a working base than the Soviet embassy itself.

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e. Not only are details of military and security matters concerning the satellites known to the USSR, but all aspects of the political, economic, and social life in those states are directly or indirectly under the absolute control of the USSR.

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